

FOLEY & LARDNER
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
WASHINGTON HARBOUR
3000 K STREET, N.W., SUITE 500
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20007-5109
TELEPHONE: (202) 872-9300
FACSIMILE: (202) 672-5399

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TO:	PHONE:	FAX #:
Examiner John J. Figueroa [1772] Patent and Trademark Office	703 305-0582	703 872-9534

From: Todd J. Burns
Sender's Direct Dial: 202-672-5583
Date: December 11, 2000
Client/Matter No: 051009/0114
User ID No: 0102

MESSAGE:

Inventor: Klaus Dieter Hammer, et al.
Title: MOULDED ARTICLES OF CELLULOSE HYDRATE WITH
ENZYMATICALLY MODIFIED SURFACE
Serial No.: 09/214,840

Further to our telephone conversation attached is a copy of a Letter to PTO and stamped post card which was filed with the U.S. Patent Office on August 1, 2000 to satisfy the response to Office Action dated June 8, 2000.


Sharyn Pencofski
Secretary to Todd Burns

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FOLEY & LARDNER

Docket No: 051009/0114

Receipt is hereby acknowledged of the following:
APPLICANT: Klaus Dieter Hammer, et al.

SERIAL NO: 09/214,840

GROUP ART UNIT: 1772

FILING DATE: January 13, 1999

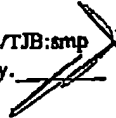
EXAMINER: J. Figueroa

FOR: MOULDED ARTICLES OF CELLULOSE HYDRATED
WITH ENZYMATICALLY MODIFIED SURFACE

Receipt is hereby acknowledged of the accompanying:

1. Letter to PTO

Date Due: August 1, 2000
Date Filed: August 1, 2000

Return to RLS/TJB:smp
Insp. By. 



Atty. Dkt. No. 051009/0114

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Klaus Dieter Hammer, et al.

Title: MOULDED ARTICLES OF CELLULOSE
HYDRATE WITH ENZYMATICALLY MODIFIED
SURFACE

Appl. No.: 09/214,840

Filing Date: January 13, 1999

Examiner: J. Figueroa

Art Unit: 1772

LETTERAssistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This letter is in response to the Office Action mailed June 8, 2000. In reviewing the Office Action in preparation of a response, the undersigned noted that the claim limitations referred to in the Office Action, e.g., page 3, paragraph 4 of the Office Action referring to the limitation "which comprises transversely stretching the film by blow molding . . .," are not limitations in the claims of the above captioned application. Upon discovering this, the undersigned called Examiner Figueroa on approximately July 18, 2000 in an attempt to determine what claims had been examined.

Examiner Figueroa indicated that there were two specifications attached to the PTO's file. One specification is entitled "Moulded Articles of Cellulose Hydrate With Enzymatically Modified Surface." This is the specification that applicants' representatives have in their file and corresponds to International Application PCT/EP97/03530 of which the present application is the National Stage filing. Examiner Figueroa informed the undersigned that the other specification attached to the PTO's file actually examined by the Examiner is entitled "Cellulose-Based Foodstuff Casings Prepared By the Amine Oxide Process." This specification is the equivalent to PCT publication WO 97/31970 submitted by applicants' representative to the Patent Office on February 19, 1999 in an Information Disclosure Statement ("IDS"). According to applicants' representatives records, and an English translation of this document was submitted in the February 19th IDS. To the best of the undersigned's and applicants'

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knowledge, it appears that this English translation was mistakenly attached to the PTO's file and this translation is what was erroneously examined.

In summary, applicants' representatives have thoroughly reviewed their file and can find no mistake made by applicants or applicants' representatives in filing the above captioned application or any Information Disclosure Statements. The correct specification that corresponds to 09/214,840 (National Phase of PCT/EP97/03530) is Moulded Articles of Cellulose Hydrate With Enzymatically Modified Surface. This specification should have been forwarded by the PCT International Bureau to the United States Patent and Trademark Office as an Elected Office. The English translation of this application was submitted by applicants' representatives on January 13, 1999. Because applicants and applicants' representatives made no mistake in submitting the application papers, the PTO is requested to issue a new Office Action based on an examination of the correct claims, and to restart the statutory period for reply.

If the Examiner has any questions, the Examiner is courteously invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number shown above.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 1, 2000



Todd J. Burns
Registration No. 38,011

FOLEY & LARDNER
3000 K Street, N.W., Suite 500
Washington, D.C. 20007-8696
(202) 672-5300